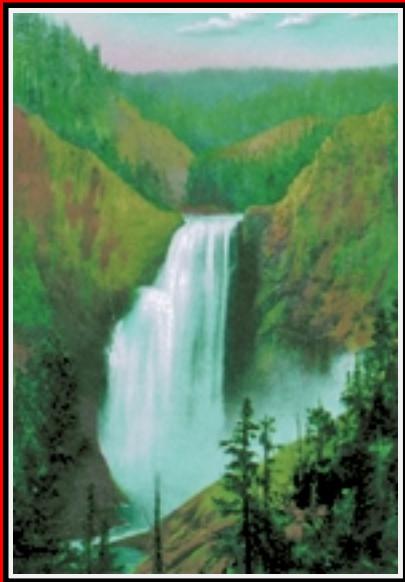


THE STATE *Of* THE PARK



YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK 1999

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK  
THE STATE *Of* THE PARK  
1999

PART ONE  
THE YELLOWSTONE PARK BUSINESS PLAN

The printing of this document was made possible through a gracious donation from the

*Yellowstone Park Foundation*



**Suggested Citation:**

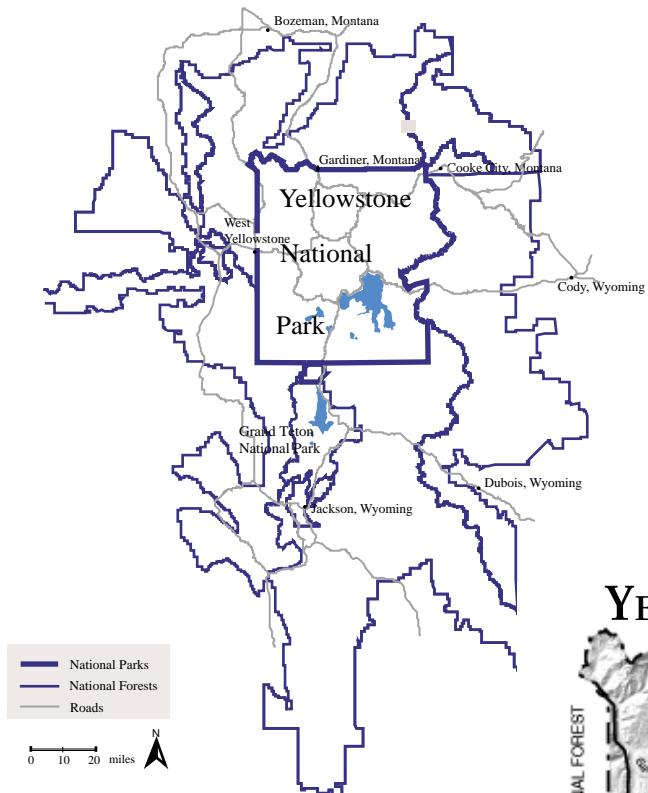
Yellowstone National Park, 1999. *The state of the park*. National Park Service, Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming.

Book design and graphics by Renée Evanoff.

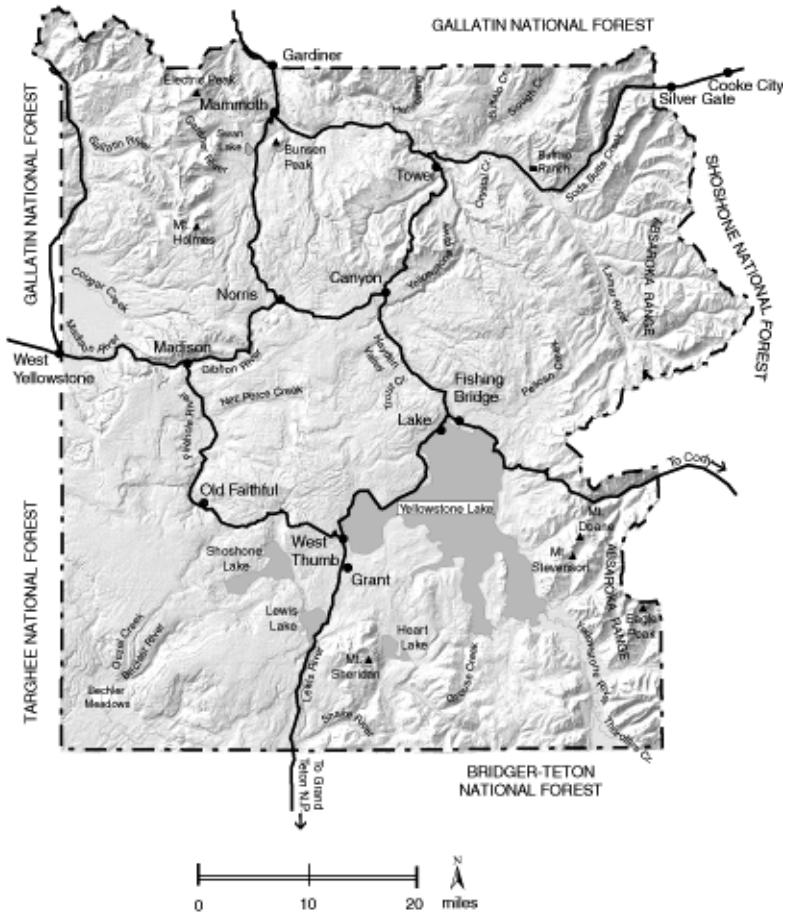
Photographs courtesy National Park Service Photo Archives, AmFac Resorts and Recreation, Jim Peaco, Jennifer Whipple, and Renée Evanoff.

Printed by Artcraft Printers, Inc. Bozeman, Montana.  Printed on recycled paper.

# THE GREATER YELLOWSTONE AREA



## YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Foreword - The Honorable Gerald Ford</i> .....	viii
<i>Introduction and Executive Summary</i> .....	ix
<i>The Challenge of Yellowstone</i> .....	1-1
A SAMPLING OF LAWS .....	1-3
A NEW MANDATE FOR PERFORMANCE .....	1-8
MISSION GOALS.....	1-9
<i>The Yellowstone Landscape</i> .....	2-1
PRESERVING AND RESTORING THE NATURAL REGIME .....	2-2
GREATER YELLOWSTONE .....	2-3
THE SOCIOECONOMIC SETTING .....	2-4
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT .....	2-8
LAKES, STREAMS, AND GROUNDWATER .....	2-17
VEGETATION .....	2-23
WILDLAND FIRE .....	2-29
<i>Wildlife</i> .....	3-1
BEARS .....	3-6
BIRDS .....	3-12
BISON .....	3-16
ELK AND OTHER UNGULATES .....	3-21
FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC RESOURCES .....	3-28
WOLVES .....	3-34
<i>Cultural Resources</i> .....	4-1
ARCHEOLOGY .....	4-3
ETHNOGRAPHY .....	4-7
HISTORIC STRUCTURES .....	4-10
CULTURAL LANDSCAPES.....	4-15
LIBRARY, ARCHIVES, AND MUSEUM .....	4-19

<i>Science and Technology</i> .....	5-1
LEARNING FROM YELLOWSTONE .....	5-2
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS .....	5-13
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS .....	5-16
COMPUTER SUPPORT .....	5-20
THE GREENING OF YELLOWSTONE .....	5-23
<i>Managing Public Use and Services</i> .....	6-1
VISITATION TRENDS .....	6-2
PRESERVING THE PARK THROUGH INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION .....	6-6
BREAKING NEWS .....	6-14
ACCOMMODATING VISITORS .....	6-18
BACKCOUNTRY USE .....	6-29
WINTER USE .....	6-38
PROTECTING VISITORS .....	6-48
STRUCTURAL FIRES .....	6-59
PROTECTING RESOURCES .....	6-62
<i>Infrastructure</i> .....	7-1
PLANNING AHEAD .....	7-2
TRAILS AND BOARDWALKS .....	7-5
ROADS .....	7-8
TRANSPORTATION .....	7-15
BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS .....	7-22
ENERGY, UTILITY, AND WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS .....	7-30
<i>Park Staff and Funding</i> .....	8-1
PARTNERS IN PARK PRESERVATION .....	8-3
THE YELLOWSTONE WORKFORCE .....	8-6
SAFETY ON THE JOB .....	8-12
THE OPERATING BUDGET .....	8-16
<i>In Closing - The Honorable Jimmy Carter</i> .....	9-1
<i>Acknowledgments</i> .....	9-2